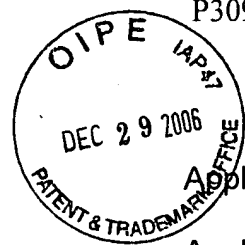


IFW

P30934.A01



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hidekatsu IKEDA et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Appln. No. : 10/599,706

Examiner: Unknown

(National Stage of PCT/JP2005/006533)

I.A. Filed : March 28, 2005

Confirmation No. : 3032

For : BENDING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/006533, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report has been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-351018 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2004-58070 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the International claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicants further submits the following documents;

- (3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-295057 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 7,007,530 B2; and
- (5) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0162408 A1.

Applicants note that the documents (1) and (3) are cited beginning at page 1 of the specification of the above-captioned application;

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

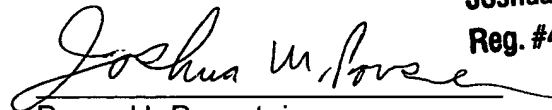
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of above-noted foreign documents, including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

P30934.A01

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hidekatsu IKEDA et al.

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Bruce H. Bernstein  
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December 19, 2006  
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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P30934Application No.  
10/599,706INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Hidekatsu IKEDA et al.Filing Date  
I.A. March 28, 2005Group  
Not Yet Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		7 0 0 7 5 3 0	03/07/06	KOYAMA et al.			
	2006 /	0 1 6 2 4 0 8	07/27/06	NIWA et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	2000	- 3 5 1 0 1 8	12/19/00	JAPAN			
	2004	- 0 5 8 0 7 0	02/26/04	JAPAN			
	9	- 2 9 5 0 5 7	11/18/97	JAPAN			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	English Language Abstract of JP 2000-351018.
	English Language Abstract of JP 2004-058070.
	English Language Abstract of JP 9-295057.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.